

1930, he began his career in broadcasting when Mexico's Radio XEW-AM first went on the air. Over the next 23 years, Mr. Bernal's fame, both in Mexico and in the United States, grew. He was well known for his radio performances, as an actor, author, and producer for XEQ and Radio Cadena Nacional. His voice was known to millions from his dubbings of Disney movies into Spanish.

In 1953, after years of business trips here, Mr. Bernal made the United States his home. He settled in San Antonio, Texas, where he helped to build the radio station KCOR, the first full-time Spanish-language radio station in the United States. In addition to authoring several novellas and radio jingles, Mr. Bernal was dedicated to bridging the gap between his Spanish-speaking audience and their government. He worked with the local Social Security Administration District Manager to produce "Su Seguro Social," tapes which introduced Americans to the Social Security Administration and explained its workings.

As America transitioned into the television era, so did Mr. Bernal, and he continued to ensure that his work benefited the community. His program on KCOR-TV—once again the first full-time Spanish-language television station in the country as well as the first UHF station—was called "Escuadrón de Auxilio," "The Help Brigade." KCOR would become the foundation of the Spanish International Network and, later, Univision.

Manuel Bernal turned 105 years old on November 19, 2009. Over more than century, he has seen tremendous changes in the world and, often enough, he was at the forefront of those changes. I may be late in saying it, but I want to congratulate Mr. Bernal on a lifetime of accomplishment. I hope that his 105th birthday was a joy and I wish him many, many more.

A TRIBUTE TO RICHARD "DICK"  
SWEEBE

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 15, 2010*

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Richard "Dick" Sweebe and his Memphis-based business, Diamond Companies, for receiving Navistar Incorporated's prestigious 2009 International Circle of Excellence Award.

The Circle of Excellence Award honors International truck dealerships that achieve the highest level of dealer performance with respect to operating and financial standards, market representation, and most importantly, customer satisfaction. It is the highest award a dealer principal can receive from Navistar. Diamond Companies has now received the Circle of Excellence Award a total of 17 times.

Diamond Companies has grown from a single International truck dealership to one of the largest International truck dealers in North America. Mr. Sweebe began his career with International Harvester in 1972 and served in several capacities before purchasing his first International dealership in 1982. His entrepreneurial leadership helped grow Diamond Companies to an operation with more than 600 employees in 16 locations across Tennessee, Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas. Diamond

Companies is the holding company for Diamond International, Diamond Idealease and Diamond State Bus Company.

As an industry leader, Mr. Sweebe has held numerous positions of responsibility in International organizations, including the former chairman of the International Dealer Council and co-chair of the International Dealer Development and Systems Board.

Through his commitment to hard work and outstanding customer service, Mr. Sweebe has built an economically vital business of which he can be justly proud. Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join with me in congratulating Dick Sweebe for his record of accomplishment, the success of Diamond Companies, and for his many contributions to his community.

CAMILLE ALLSOP—PRUDENTIAL  
SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARD

**HON. CYNTHIA M. LUMMIS**

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 15, 2010*

Mrs. LUMMIS. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate and honor a young student from the State of Wyoming who has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in her community.

Camille Allsop of Cheyenne has just been named one of the top honorees in Wyoming by the 2010 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in each state. Camille was nominated by Cheyenne's East high School. She is the lead performer and interpreter in a song and dance group that travels across the country bridging the gap between deaf and hearing audiences.

In light of numerous statistics that indicate Americans today are less involved in their communities than they once were, it is vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contribution this young citizen has made. People of all ages need to think more about how we, as individual citizens, can work together at the local level to insure the health and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods. Young volunteers like Ms. Allsop are inspiring to all of us, and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

Ms. Allsop should be extremely proud to have been singled out from the thousands of dedicated volunteers who participated in this year's program. I heartily applaud Ms. Allsop for her initiative in seeking to make her community and state a better place to live, and for the positive impact she has had on the lives of others. She has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and deserves our sincere admiration and respect. Her actions show that young Americans can—and do—play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.

RECOGNIZING PETTY OFFICER 2ND  
CLASS ANTHONY THOMPSON

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 15, 2010*

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, Petty Officer 2nd Class Anthony Thompson is a true hero. Like all of our nation's heroes, we will always be grateful for the sacrifices they have made in order to ensure our continued freedom.

Having served two deployments in Iraq, the sacrifices made by both Petty Officer 2nd Class Thompson and his family on behalf of our nation are innumerable. On April 2004, Anthony's life changed forever near Fallujah, when a suicide bomber detonated an explosive under an overpass where he and his fellow Marines had taken up post.

Although he is fortunate to have survived, he is now not only ensured a life of reduced ability and pain, but in need of a new means to support his family of five. He suffered a Traumatic Brain Injury, an incomplete spinal cord injury and a punctured right lung. The process of rebuilding his life is also blessed by the Homes for our Troops organization, which helps wounded veterans transition successfully into their communities by providing them with homes.

The Homes for our Troops Organization works with combat wounded veterans to build specially adapted homes; allowing the veteran to be as independent as possible. The organization raises monetary donations, building materials, professional labor and coordinates the process of building a home. They insure that each home provides maximum freedom of movement and the ability to live more independently for each veteran recipient.

By providing returning service members with needed resources, they are better able to succeed in their local communities. Organization's like Homes for our Troops allow us, as Americans, to give back to veterans who have selflessly given so much for the sake of our freedom, and for that we are forever grateful.

"HONORING NIEL ELLERBROOK  
FOR HIS OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP  
AND SERVICE TO HIS COMMUNITY"

**HON. BRAD ELLSWORTH**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 15, 2010*

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Niel Ellerbrook on his outstanding leadership and service to his community in Southwest Indiana.

In 2000, Mr. Ellerbrook was integral in the merging of Indiana Energy and SIGCORP into Vectren Energy Corporation—a company that would bring many new jobs to the Evansville area. Since that time, he has served as the Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the company. Vectren is currently one of Indiana's largest publicly traded corporations with over 3,700 employees.

During his tenure as CEO, Mr. Ellerbrook has been recognized for his leadership in promoting diversity in the workplace. Additionally,